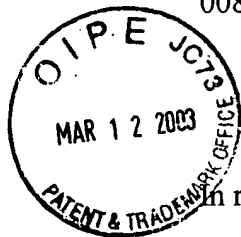


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PATENT APPLICATION

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T.D.
04/02/03



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

TOSHIKI IGARASHI ET AL.

Application No.: 09/017,295

Filed: February 2, 1998

For: NETWORK DATA BASE CONTROL
DEVICE AND METHOD THEREOF

Examiner: T.A. Kupstas

Group Art Unit: 2153

March 11, 2003

RECEIVED

MAR 18 2003

Technology Center 2100

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(d)

Sir:

no 1449 form

In compliance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and in accordance with the practice under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98, the Examiner's attention is directed to the documents listed on the enclosed PTO-1449 form. Copies of the listed documents are also enclosed.

The concise explanation of relevance for the non-English documents is given in the attached English translations. Please note that no English translation is provided for JP 8-242286. However, U.S. Patent No. 5,845,080, a copy of which is provided, is in the same patent family as JP 8-242286.

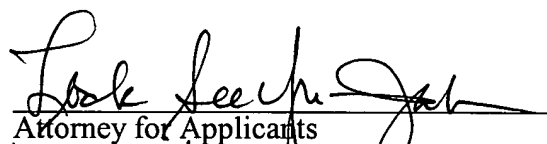
Each item of information in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing date of this Statement. A copy of the communication is enclosed.

It is respectfully requested that the above information be considered by the Examiner and that a copy of the enclosed PTO-1449 form be returned indicating that such information has been considered.

We also enclose a check for the required fee of \$180.00 to cover the Information Disclosure Statement under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(d)(2).

Applicants' undersigned attorney may be reached in our New York office by telephone at (212) 218-2100. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our address given below.

Respectfully submitted,


Attorney for Applicants
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